GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:8011
ANSWERED ON:17.05.2000
INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON TERRORISM
RAMPAL SINGH

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has proposed an International Convention on Terrorism to be organised by UNO;

(a) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether an Indian official team visited Washington in mid April, 2000 to finalise an Indian draft on this convention in concurrence with the US;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether France and other countries have supported India`s proposal; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA)

(a) & (b) Yes Sir. Government of India has proposed the adoption of a Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism. The 54th General Assembly of the UN has given mandate to initiate discussions on India`s draft conventionfrom September 2000 onwards. The Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism proposed by Indiais aimed at overcoming shortcomings in existing international conventions on terrorism which only address specific acts of terrorism or terrorist acts committed with specific weapons. The Indian draft covers terrorist acts by any means.

(c) & (d) India and the United States have established an Indo-US Joint Working Group of Legal Experts on terrorismAn Indian delegation from the Ministry of External Affairs visited Washington and held discussions on 12th and 13th April, 2000 with the concerned US officials on India`s draft proposal, which have brought out similarity of approach of the two countries.

(e) & (f) India has approached France and other G-8 countries for their support for the draft Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism. India has also taken up this matter with other countries during bilateral discussions. The Final Document of the XIIth NAM Ministerial Meeting held at Cartagena on April 8 and 9, 2000 has called upon all states to support the initiative for a Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism.